GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3764
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2000
GRAMSAT PROGRAMME
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Space Research Organisation has plans to expand its interactive channels to take up development work;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether ISRO is working with several State Governments for developingpilot projects under GRAMSAT programme for reaching out to rural audiences;

(d) if so, the details of the programme and the State Governments likely to be benefited therefrom; and

(e) the funds allocated therefor during the last three years and the current year, year-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SMT. VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Presently, ISRO operates four interactive channels for the StateGovernments of Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Gujarat and Karnataka for their training and development communication. This will be expanded to cover the States of Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, West Bengal, North Eastern States and Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The details of the programme and the State Governments that are likely to be benefited therefrom are :-

- Development Communication programmes are broadcast to more than 1000 villages in the three tribal districts of Jhabua, Dhar and Barwani in Madhya Pradesh.

- Interactive training programmes for village functionaries are conducted using the Training and Development Communication channels by State Governments of Orissa, Karnataka, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.

- Andhra Pradesh has proposed to setup a satellite network for education, health care and e-governance.

- State Governments of Himachal Pradesh, NEC States, West Bengaland Union Administration of Andaman and Nicobar have also proposed development networks.

(e) The year-wise funds allocation for Development Communication during the last three years and the current year are given below:

1997 - 1998	Rs.	3.18 Crores
1998 - 1999	Rs.	4.14 Crores
1999 - 2000	Rs.	10.77 Crores
Current year	Rs.	11.93 Crores